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Letter dated 9 July 2013 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to convey to you and through you to the esteemed members of the Security Council a letter sent by His Excellency Omer Hassan Al-Bashir, President of the Republic of the Sudan, to Thabo Mbeki, Chairperson of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel for the Sudan and South Sudan on 7 July 2013 in response to the latter's letter dated 9 June 2013 regarding the decision of the Government of the Republic of the Sudan to suspend the transport and export of South Sudan oil through the Sudan.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Idris Ismail Faragalla **Hassan**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 9 July 2013 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Allow me at the outset to thank you most sincerely for recently receiving my envoys, and for your letter of thanks and appreciation of 22 June 2013 in response.

I was pleased to know of the very fruitful and constructive exchange that took place between you, and in this same spirit I write this letter to you.

You may recall (as cited in your letter of 9 June 2013) that the Government of the Sudan would suspend the transport and export of South Sudan oil through the Sudan, consistent with the implementation of the oil agreement within the September 2012 cooperation agreement which requires joint and coordinated implementation of all agreements embodied in the cooperation agreement. This means that the process of shutdown should commence and be completed within 60 days.

However, and in the spirit I cited above, we have opted to change the shutdown plan to be effected after the elapse of the 60 days in anticipation of the efforts being exerted to maintain the implementation of the September agreements in a joint and coordinated manner. In this regard, the African Union Border Team was received in Khartoum recently and we believe that their work should not take long, particularly, the marking of the centre line of the safe demilitarized border zone and the corridors according to the agreed African Union High-level Implementation Panel security map with its coordinates, which should be a straightforward easily implemented task. In the meantime, H.E. Hailemariam Desalegn, the Prime Minster of Ethiopia with the African Union Commission receive the concerns and complaints of the two States with respect to harbouring and support of rebels in the other State and ultimately would engage the parties on the findings by 25 July 2013. This would take place before the elapse of the 60 days and we hope that the outcomes will be positive, so that the shutdown would not be necessary as the harbouring and support cease to exist (which is going to be known to us). Only then, the joint and coordinated implementation of the September agreements would be maintained as has been emphasized in your letter of 22 June 2013.

You may remain assured of our strategic political determination and commitment towards enhancing viable and good-neighbour cooperating States in the context of a highly needed regional integration for the cause of our beloved continent.

(*Signed*) Omer Hassan Ahmed **Al-Bashir**
President of the Republic of the Sudan